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July 1*st*, 1856.

DR. J. CARSON in the Chair.

A letter was read from Rudolph C. Burlag, Consul of the Netherlands, dated New York, June 26th, 1856, enclosing a letter from *The Society for the Succor of Drowned Persons*, of Amsterdam, dated March 21st, 1856, transmitting their publication acknowledged this evening.

Dr. Uhler remarked, that the specimen of Deweylite presented by himself this evening, has exactly the composition of the precious serpentine and resembles chalcedony.

On leave granted, Dr. Rand moved that the Committee on Mr. Girard's paper, entitled "Contributions to the Ichthyology of the western coast of the United States," be allowed to present their report. The motion was adopted. The Report of the Committee in favor of publication in the forth-coming number of the Proceedings, was then received and adopted.*

July 8*th*.

DR. BRIDGES, Vice President, in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From Dr. E. K. Kane, acknowledging the receipt of the special vote of thanks of the Academy.

From H. G. Bronn, dated Heidelburg, 5th January, 1856, acknowledging the receipt of the Journal of the Academy, (N. S. Vol. iii., No. 1,) and a copy of Dr. Leidy's paper on the Extinct Sloth Tribes of North America; also transmitting donations.

From the Zoologische Botanischen Verein of Vienna, dated 12th December, 1855, transmitting donations.

From the Imperial Society of Naturalists of Moscow, dated March 29, 1856, acknowledging the receipt of the Proceedings, (Vol. vii., No. 1,) of the Academy.

A paper was presented for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "On a new Genus and Species of Urodela, from the collections of the U. S. Exploring Expedition, under Com. Charles Wilkes, U. S. N., by Charles Girard, M. D.;" referred to a Committee consisting of Mr. Cassin, Dr. Brinton, and Dr. Bridges.

Mr. Lea presented for publication in the Proceedings, a paper entitled "Description of fifteen new species of Exotic Melaniana, by Isaac Lea;" referred to a Committee consisting of Mr. Vaux, Dr. Leidy and Mr. Gliddon.

Dr. Leidy mentioned that the skin of the Musk Ox, deposited by Dr. E. K. Kane, the skeleton of an Owl, presented by the same, the skin of the Llama, presented by Dr. Ruschenberger, and the skeleton of the large specimen of Chelonura serpentina, presented by Mr. Tiffany, of Cape May co. N. J., had been mounted and placed in the collection.

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* See page 131.